



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

*Mental Health Services Expansion and Funding. Tax on Incomes Over \$1 Million.
Initiative Statute.*

SAN FRANCISCO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced Thursday that the proponents of a new initiative have received clearance to begin collecting petition signatures for their measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES EXPANSION AND FUNDING. TAX ON INCOMES OVER \$1 MILLION. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Provides funds to counties to expand services and develop innovative programs and integrated service plans for mentally ill children, adults and seniors. Requires state to develop mental health service programs including prevention, early intervention, education, and training programs. Creates new commission to approve certain county programs and expenditures. Imposes additional 1% tax on taxable income over \$1 million to provide dedicated funding for expansion of mental health services and programs. Current funding for mental health programs may not be reduced because of funding from new tax.

The proponents, Darrell Steinberg and Sherman Russell Selix, Jr., must collect 373,816 signatures of registered voters for their measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is March 15, 2004. The proponents can be reached at (916) 557-1166.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at (916) 653-6575.

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